

The Washington Times Magazine Page

The Hundred Dollar Question

SYNOPSIS:

Edith Livingston, a demobilized war worker, making her home in Washington with Grace and Bob Ellsworth, a young couple, finds employment as secretary to William Alvares, a wealthy business promoter, in a dingy little office on a side street in the National Capital.

He pays her much attention, gives her a \$100 gold note, after she discovers him and a Japanese studying a map. She discovers her sweetheart, Willard Sanders, dining with a Spanish girl. She is jealous of the Spanish girl and her sweetheart is jealous of her employer. Her employer, after paying her many compliments and praising her to the utmost, expresses a desire to be introduced to her sweetheart, which amazes her. Edith agrees to Edith that he is not in love with the Spanish girl. He tells Edith her employer will bear watching and asks her to spy on Alvares. She reluctantly consents. While rummaging through her employer's desk she finds a picture of the same Spanish girl with whom she saw her sweetheart dining. Later she is further surprised by a request from her sweetheart for an introduction to her employer. By means of a piece of carbon paper, which is secreted in the typewriter roller, Edith gets a copy of a cryptic telegram her employer sent to some one in Mexico. Alvares takes Edith to a Maryland roadhouse and tries to inveigle her into taking a drink with him. Willard finally tells her that Alvares is an international crook. A short time later "Texas Tiger," a wild and woolly gentleman from the Southwest, breezes in with a gun in search of Alvares. He tells Edith that Alvares swindled him out of \$25,000. Edith is shocked. Edith introduces "Texas Tiger" to Willard and the visitor joins their excursion to Mr. Vernon, the home and tomb of George Washington.

Returning to Washington, "Texas Tiger" recognizes Alvares and the Spanish girl, Juanita, his sweetheart, on the wharf and is only prevented from shooting them by the interference of Willard. "Texas Tiger" tells Edith he is still madly in love with Juanita, notwithstanding the fact that Alvares used her as a tool to swindle him out of \$25,000.

When Edith attempts to introduce Willard to Alvares, she discovers that they are "old friends."

Alvares invites Edith and Willard to motor to Greece.

The family of Grace and Bob Ellsworth, who left a quiet Georgia home to "make her way in the world."

It was over the indignation protest of dear old Grace that I went to the office the day following Mr. Alvares' announcement that he would not be back "that day."

I knew I was looking terribly tired and worried. Who, I ask you, could look otherwise when they had been under the nervous strain under which I had been for weeks?

That morning, I realized that I looked especially pale. But I had hoped to cover it with a generous application of rouge. Also I assumed an especially light-hearted manner at breakfast to try to keep Grace from noticing that I wasn't absolutely up to "par."

But nothing escapes Grace's protecting old nose.

"If I were you I wouldn't go to the office today, Edith," she said, after Bob had left for the office and we were finishing our coffee alone. "You really look tired."

"A rest," I laughed. "And pray what have I been doing for the last month or two but resting? Honestly, Grace, I should like to have a week's vacation."

"You really look tired," she said, after Bob had left for the office and we were finishing our coffee alone. "You really look tired."

"Break down," I tried to laugh, although I knew that Grace was telling the truth. I realized that I had just about reached the "break-down" point. But I realized also that I could not afford to break just yet.

I felt that I had quite a responsibility, that I could not desert Willard just now. I felt that I must be at the office, that I must see the end of things while Willard attended to his affairs elsewhere.

"Honestly, Grace," I reasoned, "there's not a thing on earth the matter with me, except that perhaps I have lost a little sleep. I—why, I—"

I stretched my arms out and breathed deeply, simulating an exhibition of perfect health and vitality. "I'm as fit as a fiddle, Grace—a regular rock of Gibraltar."

"I hope so," Grace replied, in that tone which says more plainly than words, "but I doubt it." Of course, I felt a certain responsibility for you, Edith, aside, she added, "from being perhaps unduly fond of you."

"And I'm perhaps unduly fond of you, too," I answered, giving Grace a kiss as I walked by to leave for the office. "Don't worry about me, Grace, dear. I'm all right. And before so terribly long I'm going to take a rest—a very long one."

"You don't mean it," Grace had jumped up from the table and come toward me, holding out her arms.

TRIES TO LOCATE WILLARD.

"Just that," I answered as she enfolded me in her embrace, and I felt her patting me on the back. I hadn't intended to tell her so soon, but I felt that she deserved it. And, too, I thought it would allay her fears about my health.

"I'm going to take your advice, Grace, old dear. Willard and I are going to be married."

It was the one thing necessary to make Grace happy. She laughed and cried alternately about it. And in her joy she lost all apprehension about my "overwork."

Actually "sending me away with a smile," when I finally left for the office.

Although it was after 10 o'clock when I got there I was not surprised to find that Mr. Alvares had not been in. I would, in fact, have been very much surprised to learn that he had been there.

However, I did expect some message from him, or Willard or somebody. But at 11 o'clock none had come.

I had not seen Willard the previous day. He called me before I left the office the afternoon before to say that he would not be able to see me that night. And I understood of course that he was to fill that most momentous engagement with Mr. Alvares. He assured me that he would be in no danger. And I made myself believe him. But when 11 o'clock came and I received no word from him, I began

to get worried. I decided to call him on the phone.

First, I called his home. Willard was not there. Had not been there, they told me, since the day before. Anxiously I called his office. Whoever answered the phone informed me quite curtly that Willard was not in. When I asked if they knew when he would be back they replied that he had not been in that morning, and they had no idea when he would return.

(To Be Continued Tomorrow.)

Pin Feathers

A very effective method of removing pinfeathers from a fowl in preparation for cooking is by means of an ordinary pair of tweezers. The work can be done more quickly and thoroughly than by the old knife method.

London consumes about 14,000,000 tons of coal yearly.

WAIT AWHILE.

DEAR MISS FAIRFAX:

I have been keeping steady company for the past six months, and always thought quite a great deal of the young man.

Last week my girl friend gave a little party and invited my boy friend for myself and his cousin for another girl. That same evening I decided I liked his cousin much better than my steady friend, and I surely would like to make a date with his cousin but do not wish to hurt the feelings of the boy I am going with.

Kindly advise me what to do as I surely would like to get better acquainted with his cousin.

HAZEL EYES.

You're entirely too precious. Better let the cousin of the young man take the initiative in this matter. Then it will be very simple for you to decide.

For the Baby

When a baby is cross have patience and don't be cross yourself.

When you put on the baby's clothes don't hurry, because the clothes might be too tight and a pin might slip. You and the baby can get along better.

Notice how well a baby sleeps after a bath; so if you have one who sleeps well in the day but not at night just reverse your schedule. A little sponge in the morning will be enough.

MOVIE ACTRESSES AND THEIR HAIR

Did it ever occur to you that every movie actress you have seen has lovely hair, while the most popular actor has a balding head?

In fact, many are leading actresses just because of their attractive locks. Inquiry among them discloses the fact that they bring out all the natural beauty of their hair by careful shampooing, not with any soap or makeshift but with a simple mixture by putting a teaspoonful of camphor (which they get from the druggist) in a cup of hot water and applying this instead of soap. This full cup of shampoo liquid is enough so it is not a very thick application. Instead of just the top of the head. After its use, the hair dries rapidly with uniform color. Dandruff, excess oil and dirt are dissolved and entirely disappear. The hair is so fluffy that it looks much heavier than it is. Its luster and softness are delightful.

To you, as to millions of others, Nadine will reveal these intimate secrets. You can procure Nadine from your favorite toilet counter or by mail, 60c.

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